

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 82

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Frank M. Late, a respected entrepreneur who built a
2 remarkable career in the oil and gas business, is being
3 posthumously inducted into the Petroleum Hall of Fame on April 29,
4 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Based at the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum in
6 Midland, the Petroleum Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have
7 made outstanding contributions to the development of the petroleum
8 industry in the region; and

9 WHEREAS, Frank Marr Late was born in Johnson, Arkansas, on
10 November 1, 1908, and he went on to attend the University of
11 Arkansas; he began working in automotive sales in the mid-1930s,
12 and through the decades, he became one of the largest automobile
13 dealers in the Southwest; after residing in Claremore, Oklahoma, he
14 moved to San Angelo in 1939 and then to Dallas in 1970; and

15 WHEREAS, A man of many business interests, Mr. Late helped to
16 found Cactus Drilling in 1944, and he took over as the company's
17 sole owner in 1967; under his leadership, Cactus Drilling expanded
18 internationally, and when he sold the firm in 1980, it was the
19 largest land-based contract drilling company in the country; during
20 the 1960s, Mr. Late cofounded Cardinal Chemical, which was later
21 acquired by Dowell Chemical; he also purchased and expanded
22 Republic Supply International, which he sold in 2000; in addition
23 to his ventures in oil field services, oil and gas exploration, and
24 automotive sales, he was involved in banking, soft drink bottling,

1 and ranching; Mr. Late passed away on November 27, 2002, at the age
2 of 94; and

3 WHEREAS, Through his tremendous vision, energy, and business
4 acumen, Frank Late achieved a rare degree of success in the dynamic
5 oil and gas industry, and he is indeed a worthy addition to the
6 Petroleum Hall of Fame; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas
8 hereby honor the memory of Frank M. Late on the occasion of his
9 induction into the Petroleum Hall of Fame and pay tribute to him for
10 his many accomplishments; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
12 prepared for Mr. Late's family as an expression of high regard by
13 the Texas House of Representatives and Senate.